

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 26, 30 and 49. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - ii).

1. (Amended) A method of delivery to the pulmonary system comprising:
- administering to the respiratory tract of a patient in need of treatment, prophylaxis or diagnosis an effective amount of a spray-dried powder comprising:
- a) a multivalent metal cation which is complexed with a therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic agent;
  - b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; and
  - c) optionally, a multivalent metal cation-containing component
- wherein, the total amount of multivalent metal cation present in the spray-dried powder is more than 1 % w/w of the total weight of the agent and wherein release of the agent is sustained.

26. (Amended) A method of delivery to the pulmonary system comprising:
- administering to the respiratory tract of a patient in need of treatment, prophylaxis or diagnosis an effective amount of a spray-dried powder comprising:
- a) a protein which is complexed with zinc;
  - b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; and
  - c) optionally, a multivalent metal cation-containing component
- wherein, the total amount of multivalent metal cation present in the spray-dried powder is more than about 2 % w/w of the total weight of the agent, delivery includes the deep lung and release of the agent is sustained.

30. (Amended) A composition for delivery to the pulmonary system comprising:

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- a) an effective amount of spray-dried powder of a therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic agent which are complexed to a multivalent metal cation wherein the agent has a charge which is opposite to that of the cation;
  - b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; and
  - c) optionally, a multivalent metal cation-containing component
- wherein, the spray-dried powder have a total amount of multivalent metal cation which is more than 1 % w/w of the total weight of the agent, a tap density of less than about 0.4 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, a median geometric diameter of from about 5 micrometers and about 30 micrometers and an aerodynamic diameter of from about 1 to about 5 microns.
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49. (Amended) A composition for delivery to the pulmonary system comprising:  
administering to the respiratory tract of a patient in need of treatment, prophylaxis or diagnosis an effective amount of a spray-dried powder comprising:
- a) a protein which is complexed with zinc;
  - b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; and
  - c) optionally, a multivalent metal cation-containing component
- wherein, the total amount of multivalent metal cation present in the spray-dried powder is more than about 2 % w/w of the total weight of the agent, delivery includes the deep lung and release of the agent is sustained.
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#### REMARKS

Claims 1 and 26 have been amended to recite methods of delivery to the pulmonary system comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a patient in need of treatment, prophylaxis or diagnosis an effective amount of a spray-dried powder. Claims 30 and 49 have been amended to recite compositions for delivery to the pulmonary system comprising an effective amount of spray-dried powder. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the Specification, for example, at page 8, lines 28 through 29. No new matter has been added.